

Bill to Stem Alien Influx Goes to Wilson

Congress, in Drive to Clean
Slate, Puts Many Meas-
ures on Road to Passage;
House Accepts Tariff

Army Act to Conference

Lower Branch Also Ap-
proves \$7,500,000 Dry
Fund; Block War Repeals

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Congress worked under forced draft to-day and to-night, with leaders determined to clean the slate of most important legislation before adjournment next Friday. The army appropriation bill, carrying \$382,000,000 and providing for an army of an average strength of 175,000 men instead of 150,000 voted by the House for the next fiscal year, was passed to-night by the Senate and sent to conference.

The immigration restriction bill was sent to the President and several others, including the emergency tariff, were put on the road to final passage. After a brief, but sharp fight, the House accepted the Senate substitute bill limiting immigration for fifteen months after April 1 to 3 per cent of the nationals of a foreign country, who were in the United States at the time of the 1910 census. The measure would not affect Japan, China, Canada and the Latin-American countries.

Immediately after the House acted the bill was sent to the Senate, which approved the conference report in less than one minute, and it then was prepared for transmission to the White House.

The big army budget went through in record time of less than three hours, according to the army increase provisions and the total increase of \$31,000,000 made over the House bill failing to materialize.

Immediately after passage of the army bill Senator Foraker, Republican of Washington, moved to take up the navy appropriation bill, the last of the appropriation measures before the Senate, but withdrew his motion when it was announced that an agreement had been made with leaders by Senator Borah, Republican, of Idaho, that the naval bill should wait until next week.

In passing the army measure the Senate added an amendment, requested by General Pershing, providing for promotion to the grade of lieutenant general of Major General Hunter Liggett and Robert L. Bullard, who commanded field armies overseas. Chairman Wadsworth of the Military Committee offered the amendment, stating that the war record of the two officers justified this recognition.

The Senate provisions increasing the size of the regular army to 175,000 men went through with a rush after the Senate had adopted an amendment by Senator Borah, limiting army expenditures to the total carried in the Senate bill and operating to bar any deficiency appropriations later.

Senator Wadsworth said he felt sure the incoming Administration would keep the army within the 175,000 limit set by Congress. He explained that the army on July 1 would aggregate about 207,000 men, and that with prospective reductions it would number by January 21 next 162,000 men.

Among the Senate Military Committee increases in appropriations adopted was an increase from \$19,200,000 to \$20,000,000 for the army air service.

The Senate also adopted the proposed increase from \$1,500,000 to \$2,500,000 for vocational education in the regular army, and another amendment increasing from \$350,000 to \$500,000 the appropriations for Alaskan roads.

A committee amendment providing for discharge, upon request, of men in the regular army with more than one year's honorable service also was adopted.

While the House was spending two

hours in debating the emergency tariff bill, the Senate passed the annual fortifications measure, carrying approximately \$8,000,000, and sent it to conference for the composing of differences between the House and Senate.

The House then adopted the conference report on the tariff measure, 205 to 127, and sent it to the Senate. Chairman Penrose of the Finance Committee attempted to start the bill through the Senate on its last lap, but failed. A gentlemen's agreement back to conference, however, whereby the bill will be taken up Monday.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, the Republican leader, gave notice that he would join in asking precedence for the naval bill, further postponing the war bill repeal. The Senate then went on with the army appropriations measure.

In the course of the day one of the big appropriation measures, the sundry civil bill, met a snag, the Senate insisting upon a \$10,000,000 appropriation for the Wilson Dam at Muscle Shoals. The measure was sent back to conference, where House and Senate managers will make another effort to iron out the differences between the two houses.

The House late in the day took up the conference report on the legislative appropriation bill and by a vote of 208 to 92 concurred in a Senate amendment increasing from \$7,100,000 to \$7,500,000 the allowance for enforcement of prohibition during the next fiscal year.

Harding May Take Postmasters From Civil Service Class

Expected to Revoke Order
of 1917, Which Affected
Those of 1st, 2d and 3d
Class, at an Early Date

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Information received here is that Senator Harding, shortly after assuming the duties of Chief Executive, will revoke the executive order of 1917 putting first, second and third class postmasters in the Civil Service.

Reports of this kind have recently come from St. Augustine, but have not been officially confirmed. Harry M. Daugherty said this week that this was one of the subjects about which Mr. Harding would consult Senators and House members after March 4.

The policy to be followed, it is understood, is not finally settled, but certain members of Congress who are in a position to know, have been advised that the order will in all reasonable likelihood be revoked.

National Chairman Will H. Hays, who will be the new Postmaster General, was here yesterday and was asked about the matter by some of the members of Congress. Mr. Hays has made no public statement about it.

However, about the House and Senate to-day, the statement was made that Mr. Harding had come to the conclusion it should be revoked, but did not want to make a final decision until he had talked further with Senators and House members.

Democrats in Congress are already assuming that the order will be revoked. Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, was to speak on the subject to-day. He deferred the speech until Monday, when he will defend the manner in which the Civil Service order has been administered by the present Administration and deny that politics has dictated postoffice appointments.

While there is a powerful element in both houses among Republicans in favor of returning to the old system, it is also a fact there is another element against the old system. Some members of the House say they do not want to be obliged to referee postoffice appointments and that they regard such patronage as a liability. They also contend that if the Civil Service orders are revoked it will be criticized as a blow at the Civil Service system by the Administration, and thus political harm will be done the Republican party.

House Republicans Fear Majority Is Too Big to Handle

Leaders Express Anxiety
That New Men Might
Want to Take a Hand
in Selecting Officers

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The thought uppermost in the minds of Republican leaders of the House, in planning to-day for the reorganization meeting Monday night, was that their majority might be too big to handle.

By actual count the Republican majority in the new House will be 169, or more than three to one, and some leaders expressed anxiety that the new men who came in with the November landslide, and who are here for the meeting, might want to take a hand in selecting officers to serve for the next two years.

The opinion generally was expressed, however, that Speaker Gillett and Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, the Republican leader, would be re-elected. Their friends say they will be unopposed.

Representative Knutson, of Minnesota, the all powerful committee on committees, which makes assignments to the various standing committees, will be named at the conference, and the chances are that most of the present members will hold over. Election of a steering committee may be deferred.

Leaders predicted there would be no important changes in the heads of the big committees, and that the seniority rule would still hold. Chairman Esch, of the Interstate Commerce Committee, will retire and his place probably will be taken by Representative Winslow, of Massachusetts, ranking Republican member.

A threatened fight against Chairman Volstead of the Judiciary Committee is said to have petered out.

In anticipation of a call by Mr. Harding for a special session to begin about the first of April, most of the House leaders will remain in Washington to have business in shape for the opening.

Representative Kitchin, of North Carolina, who is slated for Democratic leader to succeed Champ Clark, who retires March 4, hopes to be back in harness for the new session. Reports indicate that he is steadily gaining his old-time strength. In the event Mr. Kitchin should decline to assume the heavy burdens which fall upon the office, a fight will be made for the election of Representative Garrett, of Tennessee.

Because of the small number of Democrats in the House, reports have spread that Democratic representation on committees will be rather sharply reduced.

Britain Insists U. S. Recognize Oil Grants

Diplomatic Pressure Brought to
Bear to Get Action on Costa
Rican Concessions

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Great Britain has brought diplomatic pressure to bear on the United States to recognize the oil concessions granted by the Tinoco government of Costa Rica to British interests. It was learned to-day at the State Department, but since the United States has withheld recognition from the Tinoco régime it has taken the position that it cannot give its approval to concessions that government has granted.

It was explained, however, that no protest had been made by the American government to Costa Rica against the granting of the concessions. Officials of the State Department now are preparing information in the department's possession regarding these concessions for submission to the Senate in response to a resolution of inquiry.

Japanese Are Considering Withdrawal From Siberia

Favorable Sentiment Grows in
Official Circles, Says Tokio
Newspaper

TOKIO, Feb. 26 (By The Associated Press).—Reference to the question of Japanese occupation of the maritime province of Siberia was omitted in the recent note from Tokio to Washington relative to the death of Lieutenant Langdon, who was shot and killed at Vladivostok by a Japanese sentry. The presence of Japanese forces in eastern Siberia was one of the significant features of the United States position. The idea of withdrawing Japanese forces from the mainland of Siberia is gaining ground in official circles, contributing factor to this movement is the judgment of the court martial in censuring Japanese military officials, which, in a sense, is held to inforce the American view that no useful purpose can be served by the continued presence of Japanese in Siberia.

Although Viscount Uchida, Foreign Minister, recently declared before the Japanese Diet that the government had no intention at present to withdraw its forces, the Kokumin Shimbun says in its editorial that the Cabinet are beginning to believe that either the Langdon affair, or the creation of the Chita government, or both, should be seized upon as an excuse for evacuation.

Williams Five Strengthened
WILLIAMSTOWN, Feb. 26.—With only two games left the Williams baseball team hopes to offset some of its early season defeats. The return of Captain Beckwith after an illness has helped prospects.

Panaman War May Involve All Latin Americas

(Continued from page one)

especially in view of the belief generally held that Costa Rica is counting upon the support of the recently formed Union of Central American Republics.

The Panaman government is urging upon the Canal Zone authorities and the United States Legation here the advisability of recommending that the United States War Department issue the necessary war materials and has expressed confidence that such recommendation will be forwarded to Washington. The United States Legation is still without instructions from Washington.

Some of the 1,500 rifles taken over from the Panaman government following the signing of the Hay-Varela treaty were returned, and most of these guns were sold at public auction here in 1914. The remainder were shipped to the Panaman Consul in New York for disposal in 1918.

2,000 Enroll for Services
More than two thousand men enrolled for military service here yesterday afternoon for the army. Two hundred men left this city yesterday afternoon for the Costa Rican frontier and it is believed the Panaman forces near Coto or en route to that place number about five hundred. These consist of national police and volunteers from Panama City and Chiriqui province.

The base of Panaman operations will be in the small town of Progreso, near Golfo de Dulce, which is connected by a narrow gauge railway with a small port constructed by the Panama Sugar Company. The town of Progreso is also the property of the same corporation.

Progreso is the focus of trails which lead to David, the capital of the province of Chiriqui, which is about thirty-two miles distant from Coto. The Panama Canal Zone administration and the United States Legation here had not received instructions from Washington last night. A conference was to be held at once between President Porras, William Jennings Price, United States Minister, and Colonel Jay J. Morrow, acting Canal Governor, but it was postponed until Monday.

Costa Rica Has Larger, Better Equipped Army

Costa Rica, the scene of revolutions and disorders a few years ago, has a larger and better equipped army than Panama. Not only has the San Jose government a standing army of 1,000

men, but it has at its disposal a force of 50,000 militia, trained by their frequent contacts with each other and with the armies of neighboring states, especially Nicaragua. On the other hand, whatever troops Panama has with which to defend the country's northern boundary are police troops organized since Panama's entry into the war. Absence of political disorders in Panama is pointed to as accounting for the smallness and inadequacy of its army.

The population of Panama is 401,428, as against nearly 475,000 for Costa Rica. The naval forces of both countries consist of nothing more than motor launches, used by revenue agents.

Both Panama and Costa Rica declared war on Germany and were active in expelling Germans from their soil during the war. Costa Rica trained about 5,000 troops for service, but these were never sent to Europe.

Less than a year ago part of the United States 33d Infantry was stationed in Chiriqui Province, near the scene of the present hostilities, doing police duty.

Colombia, which now threatens to go to the assistance of Panama against the Costa Ricans, has a peace time army of 6,000 men and a reserve force of 30,000. Every blue-blooded Colombian is obliged to serve in the army in the event of war. The country's population is about 5,000,000, or about ten times as great as either Costa Rica or Panama. Panama was a province of Colombia until the revolt of 1903.

U. S. Ready to Maintain Peace Near the Canal

State Department Waiting for
Details of War Threats of
Panama and Costa Rica

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Faced with the seriousness of the situation, officials of the State Department began to-night consideration of steps to take in case it should be necessary to attempt to avert war between Panama and Costa Rica.

Official confirmation that President Porras of Panama had gone so far as to sign a declaration of war was yet lacking, and from Costa Rica no information had been received, notwithstanding an inquiry to the American Legation.

Just what measure will be adopted had not been determined to-night and will not be, it was said, until all the facts are officially communicated to the department. It was admitted, however, that, despite the awkward predicament presented in the laying out of any course upon the eve of a change of administration, some decisive action might be necessary if the two countries should engage in hostilities.

The obvious remedy offered of landing American troops to avert a clash was dismissed by those who believed both governments could be induced to listen to friendly council and, if not, to a

stern warning that they said the department was prepared to issue if it should be necessary. It was regarded as probable that identical messages would be sent to both capitals.

The information received by the department continued to-night to be essentially the same as that contained in press dispatches. The request of the Panaman government for aid in recovering the guns surrendered many years ago to the United States authorities cannot be complied with, it was said, for the reason that they long ago were disposed of and the money returned to Panama. The United States, it was also said, was not eager to assist in arming the Panamanians, since to do so would enable them to bring about the precise situation the department is anxious to avert.

Absence of information from the Costa Rican capital caused government officials here to believe it possible that the importance of the raid by the Costa Ricans into the disputed Coto district had been exaggerated and that it might not after all have had government sanction.

Diplomatically the situation presented was regarded by officials here as far from simple. Coto is a part of the strip of territory whose sovereignty was determined by Chief Justice White acting as an arbitrator many years ago after one adjudication already had been made by President Loubet of France. Chief Justice White awarded the territory to Costa Rica, but it never has actually passed under Costa Rican control.

Regardless of the territorial rights involved, the chief concern here is the continued peace of all territory adjacent to the Panama Canal.

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